

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jersey City Police Detect Diesel Fuel Leak from Newport Tower into the Hudson River Fast-Acting Officers Spur Clean-Up of Nearly 300 Gallons of Fuel

JERSEY CITY – Jersey City Police Officers on patrol in the Newport area at 8:20 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008, noticed a strong chemical odor later determined to be diesel fuel.

Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the diesel fuel was flowing from relief valves in the area of 111 Pavonia Avenue onto the street, and subsequently into the storm sewers that flow into the Hudson River.

The Jersey City Fire Department's Haz-Mat Unit responded immediately, and the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Hudson Regional Health, the Jersey City Police Department, the JCIA, the JCMUA, and OEM were also on the scene.

Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy closely monitored the situation through the Office of Emergency Management and praised the work of the officers on the street for their quick response.

"Thanks to two observant and fast-acting police officers, we were able to bring this situation quickly under control," **Mayor Healy** said.

Investigators have determined the leak occurred while diesel fuel transferred between two underground tanks as a result of a faulty float valve. Under the supervision of DEP, an authorized fuel clean-up crew, Ken's Marine of Bayonne, responded to the scene. Crews worked through the evening to mitigate the contamination and remain on the scene.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.

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